

Minutes from the WeCAN Meeting held at Westfield City Hall Assembly Room on  
April 24, 2012

Disclaimer: I hope you will find these notes helpful. They are not a complete representation of the meeting, but rather the highlights of topics discussed. Feel free to contact Carrie or Derek at Westfield City Hall: [communications@westfield.in.gov](mailto:communications@westfield.in.gov) or (317) 804-3001 if you have any questions.

**April 24, 2012**

**Agenda**

1. Welcome – John Dippel
2. Mindi McMillian – Candidate for Indiana House of Representatives District 24
3. Q&A with Mayor Cook
4. Westfield Library Construction Presentation
5. Conclude



**1. Welcome**

The next WeCAN meeting is on **Tuesday, May 29, at 7pm** at **City Hall Assembly Room** (130 Penn St).

John Dippel, City Council Vice-President, opened the meeting with introductions.

Mindi McMillan discussed her plans for State Representative

**2. Q & A with Mayor Cook**

Mayor Cook answered a question about traffic problems and the Police Officers directing traffic and congested intersections. Chief Rush stated that it seems that the officers directing traffic do not help with the movement of traffic and the ripple effect seems to create the same problems in other intersections.

Mayor answered a question regarding Union Street/ US 31 Timeline – Mayor says the bridges should be constructed in 2 years however the engineering work from 31 around Target is not totally funded. Mayor Cook also answered a question about the US31 construction project and its effects on the side streets of Westfield. He said police will be monitoring heavy traveled areas.

Mayor also was asked a question on the status of the Harmony Development. Mayor stated that the Harmony Development is proposed for the area of 146<sup>th</sup> and Towne. It's a smaller version of the Symphony project – 296 acres and 790 single family homes. It also has a commercial component including a grocery store. Check the city website for public hearing dates.

Mayor was then asked a question about the status of the RFP issued for selling the utilities. He stated that we (the City) are always looking at ways to be for efficient and selling the utilities could be a way to eliminate \$64 million worth of city debt. The City should be receiving proposals in late May or early June. At that time, an evaluation committee will evaluate all proposals and make a recommendation to myself (Mayor) and the City Council. Mayor also

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mentioned that cities across the county are doing this vary thing and that 50% of Indiana residents are serviced by private utilities.

Finally, Mayor Cook was asked about the status of 146<sup>th</sup> street construction. He stated that construction is scheduled to begin in 2013 from Ditch to the County Line.

### **3. Update on Speed Limits – John Dippel**

John Dippel mentioned he had spoken with the Dr. Keen, the School Board and all the City Council members and the have decided that new school zone speed limits are in order. In summary, the school zone speed limits will be changes to 30mph from 7am to 9:30am and again from 2pm to 4:30pm. Washington Woods and the High School zones will most likely remain the same because of the volume or traffic or because of walkers. Council will vote on this ordinance next month.

### **4. Library Presentation**

Mike Thomas, Library Board President and Sheryl Sollars, Director of the Westfield Library, gave a presentation about the proposed library renovation project. He showed a video and asked WeCan members to get the work out about the project. Below is a link to the video and plans for construction. Council will discuss at the May 14<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

<http://www.wwpl.lib.in.us/renovation.htm>

Discussions in favor and not in favor of the Library's plans took place. Questions were asked about the long term plan and Mike Thomas stated that is construction/renovation is a short term and intermediate plan. Long term plans have not yet been determined. He encouraged residents to check with website for updates.

### **5. Closing Announcements**

The next WeCAN meeting is on **Tuesday, May 29, at 7pm** at the City Hall Assembly Room. Check with the website for the agenda.

If you have any topic suggestions or issues that you have questions on, please don't hesitate to contact us at [communications@westfield.in.gov](mailto:communications@westfield.in.gov).

For updated announcements and information from the past meetings, please visit the WeCAN Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/wecaninformation/>